

Message Text

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72

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-15 USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-15 TRSE-00 DRC-01 /142 W

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R 111655Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY VALLETTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4832

INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L VALLETTA 2018

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MT, GR

SUBJ: CALL BY NEW GREEK AMBASSADOR

1. NEW NON-RESIDENT GREEK AMBASSADOR STEPHANOS
ROCANAS PRESENTED CREDENTIALS TO GOVERNOR
GENERAL OCTOBER 10, AND CALLED ON AMBASSADOR
OCTOBER 11.

2. MR. ROCANAS SAID HE HAD ONE HOUR MEETING WITH
MINTOFF BEFORE HE PRESENTED CREDENTIALS. MINTOFF
MADE TWO REQUESTS: FIRST WAS FOR ASSISTANCE TO
MALTA DRYDOCKS WHICH ROCANAS UNDERSTOOD IN TERMS
OF SKILLED FOREMEN TO BE IN CHARGE OF SHIP AND
BARGE CONSTRUCTION AT DRYDOCKS. HE REPLIED
THAT MINTOFF SHOULD GIVE HIM A SPECIFIC REQUEST
ON PPAPER, BUT CAUTIONED THAT SUCH PEOPLE IN
GREECE WERE ALL EMPLOYED BY PRIVATE FIRMS AND
COULD NOT BE MADE AVAILABLE BY GOG ITSELF.

3. SECOND REQUEST WAS IN FORM OF REMINDER THAT
GREECE HAD PROMISED TO MAKE A ONE-TIME PAYMENT
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TO MALTA IN RELATION TO BASE AGREEMENT NEGOTIATIONS.

4. ACCORDING TO ROCANAS, MINTOFF SHOWED HIM A SLIP OF PAPER WHICH INDICATED TURKEY OWED MALTA 15,000 DOLLARS, AND THAT GREECE AND LUXEMBOURG WERE TO MAKE UP AN ADDITIONAL 31,000 DOLLARS. ROCANAS SAID HE WAS TOTALLY IGNORANT OF THIS MATTER BUT WOULD COMMUNICATE WITH HIS GOVERNMENT.

5. COMMENT: ONLY RECORD IN EMBASSY INDICATES THAT GREECE AND TURKEY HAD EACH PROMISED ONE TIME PAYMENT OF 50,000 DOLLARS AND LUXEMBOURG 7,800 DOLLARS. IT MAY BE THAT NONE OF THE THREE COUNTRIES HAVE EVER ACTUALLY PAID. MINTOFF TOLD ROCANAS THAT HE RAISED MATTER WITH TURKS LAST MONTH AND WAS TOLD THAT THEY HAD SIMPLY FORGOTTEN.

6. ROCANAS SAID HIS MEETING WITH MINTOFF WAS EASY AND CORDIAL. MINTOFF AT ONE POINT TRIED TO ENGAGE IN DISCUSSION OF GREEK INTERNAL AFFAIRS, BUT NOT IN HOSTILE TERMS. ROCANAS SIMPLY SAID GREECE WAS NOT INTERESTED IN INTERNAL MALTESE POLITICS AND HE WOULD PREFER NOT TO DISCUSS SUBJECT. MINTOFF AGREED.
GETZ

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EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

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